

JUVENILE DELINQUENCY. By J. D. W. Pearce, M.A., M.D., F.R.C.P.(Ed.), D.P.M. (Pp. x + 396. 25s.). London : Cassell. 1953.

DR. PEARCE begins his book with a brief historical survey of the subject, showing that "the grave increase in Juvenile Delinquency" has been a source of anxiety since the beginning of the nineteenth century. He ends his study by remarking that the real question is not so much one of deciding *what* the right preventive steps are, but *why* they are not taken.

Throughout the book, he stresses the fact that delinquency is only the presenting symptom—it is not in itself a disease—and that each juvenile delinquent must be studied as an individual. While no simple explanations can be accepted as adequate, the causes for the development of the delinquent character are divided into nine broad categories, which may each have many sub-divisions. The clinical descriptions of these categories are given in not too technical language, and the many illustrative cases quoted are excellent, and serve to emphasise the individuality of each problem.

The section on the Law and the Delinquent, and those on Treatment (including punishment) and Prevention are well-balanced, and show that the re-education of the young delinquent can be much more efficiently achieved through constructive methods than by mere repression and retribution.

Dr. Pearce's book is comprehensive, and though possibly too technical for the ordinary layman, will prove very valuable to those whose work brings them into contact with this vast problem.

M. E. L.

CLINICAL NEUROLOGY. By Frank A. Elliott, Brodie Hughes and J. W. Aldren Turner; edited by Frank A. Elliott. (Pp. xxii + 751; plates 8. 42s.). London : Cassell. 1952.

THIS book which has just been published is intended primarily for the use of post-graduate students. Too advanced for under-graduates and possibly not containing, as the authors assert, the wealth of detail required by the professed neurologist, I think most neurologists will want to read it and the book should have a wide appeal to the general physician. Although not profuse, such illustrations as there are seem to be well chosen and the subject matter is set out in two sections, both the medical and surgical aspects of neurology receiving equal attention. In the first section, which comprises some 200 pages, there are nine chapters devoted to the applied anatomy and physiology of disorders of the nervous system. In the second section the clinical aspects of these disorders are dealt with systematically. There is a well balanced and neat description of modern views on motor functioning, a difficult feat to achieve, and a welcome addition (usually missing in most text-books of this kind), is the chapter on mental disorder in organic disease. More space indeed might have been devoted to this important subject. Such ancillary aspects of clinical neurology as electroencephalography, neuro-radiology, perimetry, receive adequate attention and one of the best chapters in the second section deals with injuries and disease of the peripheral nerves. Bibliographies are given at the end of each chapter and although short, include the best and most representative papers on the subjects discussed.

R. S. A.

DISEASES OF THE EYE. A Text-book for Students and Practitioners. By Eugene Wolff, M.B., B.S.(Lond.), F.R.C.S.(Eng.). Fourth edition. (Pp. x + 224; figs. 150; plates 5. 30s.). London : Cassell. 1953.

THE difficulty of writing a text-book in a speciality for students and practitioners is to establish what is the essential minimum to be intelligible. Mr. Wolff has succeeded admirably, and, furthermore, the material is set out in a manner which attracts the interest of the reader. Students seem to regard "the eye" as a small separate entity without realising the tremendous link-up with other branches of medicine, yet they have only to glance, for example, at the opening of Chapter VIII and they cannot fail to be impressed by the fact that retinal hæmorrhages occur in a great number of widely scattered medical diseases.

This is certainly a book to be put very high up in the list of essential text-books which every student and practitioner should possess.

S. R. S.